

LIBRARY

RURAL DISTRICT OF WAYLAND.

THE

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

TOGETHER WITH

THE

REPORTS

OF THE

SANITARY INSPECTORS AND

WATERWORKS ENGINEER.



-----

1952.

S T A F F .

Medical Officer of Health:

ROBERT N.C. McCURDY,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H..

Sanitary Inspector and  
Inspector under Petroleum Acts:

A.T. BOORE.

A.R. San. I., M.S.I.A.

(also holds the Certificate for the Inspection of  
Meat and other Foods).

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

A.E. SHELDRAKE.

Cert. S.I.J.B.

Chief Waterworks Engineer:

M.G.M. SHORT,

A.I.W.E.

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GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area in acres	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	106,881
Population (estimated at mid-year by Registrar General)	...							19,050
Number of inhabited houses		...	...	...	...	...		5,819
Rateable value	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£66,229
Product of 1d Rate	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£272

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the sanitary circumstances, health and vital statistics of your District during the year 1952.

Two favourable trends in vital statistics occurred during the year. The birth rate rose, and is now above the rate for the country as a whole, and the death rate fell to a figure below that for the rest of the Country. An unfavourable trend on the other hand, was an increase in the number of deaths from tuberculosis.

A decrease in the number of cases of whooping cough notified, was accompanied by an increase of the same order in the number of cases of measles. Cases of scarlet fever notified were increased, while those of pneumonia were decreased. There were not so many fresh cases of tuberculosis as in previous years.

Of the ten cases of poliomyelitis notified, seven were confirmed. Of these seven, six were paralytic and there was one death.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.  
(SECTION 47).

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

The provisions of this Section are "for the purposes of securing the necessary care and attention for persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease or, being aged, infirm or physically incapacitated, are living in insanitary conditions, and are unable to devote to themselves and are not receiving from other persons, proper care and attention."

The Section goes on to explain that, if the medical officer of health is satisfied that in the interests of any such person it is necessary to remove them, the local authority may apply for a court order to do so.

A number of cases involving aged persons have arisen where action might have been taken under this Section. I have not thought fit to recommend you to take such action, because I think there is a tendency to regard the interests of old people from too narrow an angle.

The situation has usually been that of an old person living alone in insanitary conditions. I have always adopted the principle that if such a person is of sound mind, then they have a right to choose their place of abode, even if their choice may be somewhat to the detriment of their physical health, provided that they are not endangering the health of other persons.

The simple truth is often overlooked, that there is no place like home. Home is what you are used to, however humble it may be. An old person has little else than memories to live for and these are nearly all associated with home.



The greater the physical disabilities of an old person, the more is this true. If they cannot get about they have around them those things which, and those people who, interest them most. If they are blind they know their way about by the familiar objects whose feel they have come to know.

I can see no justification for trying to fit the elderly against their will into new and unfamiliar, albeit more hygienic, surroundings even if, which is doubtful, their lives might be prolonged a little thereby.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS, 1949.  
(REGULATION 20).

During the year under review, restrictions were placed on the sale of milk from one herd and lifted in respect of five herds. At the end of the year restrictions remained in force on individual cows in five different herds. The organism concerned was *Brucella abortus* in each case.

FOOD POISONING OUTBREAKS.

Four outbreaks of food poisoning were notified involving five persons. In the case of one person the organism *Salmonella typhimurium* was isolated but the source of infection was not discovered. In the other cases the cause was not ascertained. In each of two cases of Dysentery notified, *Salmonella typhimurium* was found, but here again the source of infection could not be traced.

There were no deaths associated with these outbreaks.

MEDICAL STATISTICS.

<u>Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Live Births	163	145	308
Still Births	5	2	7

POPULATION AT MID-YEAR, BIRTHS, BIRTHRATE, STILLBIRTHS, STILLBIRTH RATES, DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1949.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
Population ... ..	17,450	17,775	18,690	20,830	19,050
Births (total) ... ..	338	268	301	295	308
Birthrate per 1000 of population	19.4	15.3	16.1	14.2	16.2
Stillbirths ... ..	11	8	9	9	7
Stillbirth rate per 1000 of population ... ..	0.63	0.46	0.45	0.43	0.37
Stillbirth rate per 1000 total births ... ..	31.5	29.0	29.0	29.6	22.2

<u>DEATHS.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All ages	105	107	212
Infants under 1 year	5	2	7

CAUSES OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.

<u>Cause.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Prematurity	1	2	3
Congenital malformation	2	0	2
Birth injury	1	0	1
Congenital heart disease	1	0	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>7</u>

POPULATION AT MID-YEAR, DEATHS, DEATHRATE,  
INFANT DEATHS, INFANT MORTALITY RATE, DURING  
THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1949.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
Population ... ..	17,450.	17,775.	18,690.	20,830.	19,050.
Deaths ... ..	216	219	218	239	212
Deathrate per 1000 of population	12.4	12.5	11.7	11.5	11.1
Infant Deaths ... ..	14	6	4	9	7
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births ... ..	41.4	22.0	13.3	30.5	22.7

DEATHS FROM CERTAIN SELECTED CAUSES  
DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

<u>Cause.</u>	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1949.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
Tuberculosis ... ..	6	3	1	3	6
Bronchitis and Pneumonia ...	14	18	15	25	12
Other notifiable infectious diseases	3	0	1	1	1
Motor vehicle and other accidents	5	1	9	14	9
Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	0	0	0	0	0
Cancer ... ..	40	30	34	32	32

DEATHS ACCORDING TO AGES (compiled from  
returns submitted by the District Registrar).

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Under 1 year	5	2	7
1 and under 5	2	0	2
5 - do - 10	0	1	1
10 - do - 20	1	0	1
20 - do - 30	4	3	7
30 - do - 40	3	1	4
40 - do - 50	2	8	10
50 - do - 60	8	12	20
60 - do - 70	22	13	35
70 - do - 80	28	31	59
80 - do - 90	27	29	56
90 and over	3	7	10
Totals	<u>105</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>212</u>

CAUSES OF DEATH AT AGES ABOVE 1 YEAR AND BELOW 50.

<u>Age Group.</u>	<u>Sex.</u>	<u>Cause.</u>
1 to 5	1 Male	Pneumonia
	1 Male	Scalds
5 to 10	1 Female	Leukaemia
10 to 20	1 Male	Congenital abnormality
20 to 30	3 Male	Accident
	1 Male	Bronchiectasis
	1 Female	Tuberculosis
	1 Female	Hodgkins disease
	1 Female	Sarcoma
30 to 40	1 Male	Kidney disease
	1 Male	Accident
	1 Male	Poliomyelitis
	1 Female	Tuberculosis
40 to 50	1 Male	Cerebral haemorrhage.
	1 Male	Accident
	2 Female	Cancer
	2 Female	Disseminated sclerosis
	1 Female	Cerebral haemorrhage
	1 Female	Pneumonia
	1 Female	Diabetes
	1 Female	Peritonitis



DEATHS FROM ALL CAUSES (Registrar  
General's Short List).

<u>List No.</u>	<u>Cause.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	2	3	5
2	Tuberculosis, other	1	0	1
3	Syphilitic disease	0	0	0
4	Diphtheria	0	0	0
5	Whooping cough	0	0	0
6	Meningococcal infections	0	0	0
7	Acute Poliomyelitis	1	0	1
8	Measles	0	0	0
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	1	1
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	0	2
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	1	0	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	4	4
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	2	2
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	9	14	23
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2	3
16	Diabetes	0	1	1
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	18	19	37
18	Coronary disease, angina	15	8	23
19	Hypertension with heart disease	1	2	3
20	Other heart disease	13	14	27
21	Other circulatory disease	11	11	22
22	Influenza	0	1	1
23	Pneumonia	3	6	9
24	Bronchitis	2	1	3
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	2	0	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and deodenum	0	0	0
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	1	2
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	4	0	4
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
31	Congenital malformations	2	0	2
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	8	16	24
33	Motor vehicle accidents	3	0	3
34	All other accidents	5	1	6
35	Suicide	0	0	0
36	Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
	All causes	105	107	212

THE FOLLOWING TABLE COMPARES BIRTHRATES, DEATHRATES,  
&C. OF THIS DISTRICT WITH THOSE OF ENGLAND AND WALES  
AND OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF NORFOLK IN 1952.

	<u>England and Wales.</u>	<u>Norfolk.</u>	<u>Wayland R.D.</u>
Birthrate	15.3	15.0	16.2
Stillbirth rate per 1000 of population	0.35	0.29	0.37
Deathrate	11.3	11.3	11.1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births	27.6	28.2	22.7
Tuberculosis deathrate per 1000 of population	0.24	0.13	0.31
Tuberculosis case rate per 1000 of population	----	0.83	0.47

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED DURING THE  
PAST FIVE YEARS.

	<u>1948.</u>	<u>1949.</u>	<u>1950.</u>	<u>1951.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
Tuberculosis, all sites	15	12	23	22	9
Typhoid	0	0	0	1	0
Scarlet Fever	7	32	70	13	27
Whooping Cough	72	17	133	190	54
Erysipelas	2	1	0	7	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0	0	1
Dysentery	2	0	1	0	2
Malaria	1	0	1	0	0
Measles	359	47	574	45	194
Poliomyelitis	2	10	36	6	10
Pneumonia	3	19	6	26	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	0	0	1	1
Food Poisoning	5	2	1	4	5
Infectious Jaundice	0	16	9	11	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN 1952, BY AGES.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Under 1 yr.</u>	<u>1-5.</u>	<u>5-10.</u>	<u>10-15.</u>	<u>15-25.</u>	<u>25-45.</u>	<u>45-65.</u>	<u>Over 65.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis,all sites	0	1	2	0	1	4	1	0	9
Scarlet Fever	0	0	23	2	2	0	0	0	27
Whooping Cough	1	24	26	2	1	0	0	0	54
Erysipelas	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dysentery	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2
Measles	3	63	104	16	4	3	1	0	194
Poliomyelitis	0	0	2	2	1	5	0	0	10
Pneumonia	0	1	1	0	1	1	3	1	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Food Poisoning	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	1	5
Infectious Jaundice	0	0	0	1	3	1	1	0	6



INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN 1952, BY  
MONTH OF NOTIFICATION.

<u>Disease.</u>	<u>Jan.</u>	<u>Feb.</u>	<u>Mch.</u>	<u>Apr.</u>	<u>May</u>	<u>Jun.</u>	<u>July.</u>	<u>Aug.</u>	<u>Sept.</u>	<u>Oct.</u>	<u>Nov.</u>	<u>Dec.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Tuberculosis, all sites	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1	1	0	3	9
Scarlet Fever	0	0	2	6	1	1	0	1	0	2	12	2	27
Whooping Cough	2	0	12	12	23	2	0	0	2	0	0	1	54
Erysipelas	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Dysentery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
Measles	5	2	32	2	3	2	18	113	14	2	1	0	194
Poliomyelitis	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	2	0	1	1	3	10
Pneumonia	1	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	2	1	0	8
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Food Poisoning	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	0	5
Infectious Jaundice	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	6

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED IN 1952, ACCORDING TO PARISHES.

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Tuber- culosis, all sites</u>	<u>Scarlet Fever.</u>	<u>Whooping Cough.</u>	<u>Erysipelas.</u>	<u>Ophthalmia Neonat.</u>	<u>Dysentery.</u>	<u>Measles.</u>	<u>Poliom- yelitis.</u>	<u>Pneumonia.</u>	<u>Puerperal Pyrexia.</u>	<u>Food Poisoning.</u>	<u>Infectious Jaundice.</u>
Attleborough	1	5	3	0	0	0	89	0	2	0	1	0
Banham	0	2	20	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	1
Besthorpe	0	1	0	0	0	0	6	1	0	0	0	0
Blo'Norton	0	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Brettenham	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Bridgham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Buckenham New	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
Buckenham Old	0	2	0	1	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	1
Carbrooke	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Caston	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Croxton	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eccles	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ellingham Great	0	4	0	0	0	0	47	1	1	0	0	0
Ellingham Little	0	1	2	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Garboldisham	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Griston	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harling	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0
Hockham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	1
Kenninghall	1	5	2	0	1	0	19	0	0	0	0	1
Kilverstone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lopham North	0	0	13	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0
Lopham South	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Merton	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ovington	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Riddlesworth	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Rocklands	0	0	0	0	0	1	7	0	0	0	0	0
Roudham	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scoulton	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Shropham	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
Snetterton	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Stow Bedon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Thompson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Watton	1	0	2	1	0	0	5	0	1	0	0	1
Wretham	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	<u>9</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>

THE FOLLOWING TABLE SHOWS THE NUMBER OF CASES  
ON THE TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER AT 31ST DECEMBER  
1952 COMPARED WITH 31ST DECEMBER, 1951.

	<u>Respiratory.</u>			<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>			<u>Grand Total.</u>
	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>	
31.12.51.	34	28	62	24	17	41	103
31.12.52.	34	26	60	26	18	44	104

I should like to thank the Chairman and Members of the Council and my colleagues on the Staff for their continued support and help during the year.

I have the honour to be,  
Your obedient Servant,  
  
ROBERT N.C. McCURDY.  
Medical Officer of Health.

REPORT OF SANITARY INSPECTOR.

FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my second Annual Report as Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Looking back, each year, one is conscious of many intentions unfulfilled, but experience teaches that shortcomings are inevitable if prompt attention is to be given to routine matters in a service so comprehensive and exacting as Public Health.

Never the less, I feel that the year under review has been one of continued, steady progress, and it can be claimed that the Council's activities in the field of environmental hygiene are reflected in the absence of epidemic diseases and other evils associated with a sub-standard Public Health Service.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

(a) Meat Inspection.

There has been little change in this service during the year, except that there was an increase in the number of animals killed at the Government Slaughterhouse, Watton.

The findings and recommendations of the Commission, set up at National level to investigate the meat industry, are awaited with interest.

The Slaughterhouse continues to serve Wayland Rural District, Thetford Borough, part of Swaffham Rural District and occasionally a small surplus to the City of Norwich.

During the year 207 inspection visits have been made and the following animals inspected :-

<u>Cattle.</u>	<u>Sheep.</u>	<u>Calves.</u>	<u>Pigs.</u>
1336	2366	556	1057

Condemnations were :-

<u>Meat.</u>	<u>Offals.</u>
15,243 lbs.	9,569 lbs.

Antemortem inspections were made in respect of approximately 50% of the animals.

No case of disease notifiable under the Diseases of Animals Act was found at the Slaughterhouse.

(b) Other Foods.

During the year, 113 visits have been made to various food premises for all purposes and the following foodstuffs have been voluntarily surrendered as unfit for human consumption :-



26 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Cheese.	1 x 1 lb. Tin of Meat Loaf.
48 lbs. of National Butter.	1 x 6 oz. " " Lobster.
25 lbs. Bacon.	2 x 15oz. " " Raspberries.
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. Tea.	2 x 14oz. " " Cherries.
4 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Cooked Ham.	1 x 8 oz. " " Herring Roe.
15 lbs. of Boneless Ham.	1 x 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. " " Beans in Tomato Sauce.
4 lbs. of Pressed Pork.	1 x $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. " " " " " "
2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. of Jam.	1 x 13oz. " " Fruit Salad.
14 lbs. of Wet Fish.	2 x 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. " " Bananas.
28 lbs. of Macaroon Paste.	3 x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. " " Grapefruit.
85 lbs. of Minced Meat.	3 x 1 lb. " " Stewed Steak.
5 $\frac{1}{4}$ lbs. of Cooked Beef.	2 x 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. " " Shrimps.
11 tins of Evaporated Milk.	1 x 20 oz. " " Grapefruit Juice.
1 x 1 lb. Tin of Salmon.	3 x $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. " " Prunes.
1 x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. " " Pears.	1 x 7 lb. " " Plums.
1 x 4 lbs. " " Veal and Ham.	1 x $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. " " Lambs Tongues.
21 x 4lbs. " " Luncheon Meat.	1 x 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. " " Tomatoes.
3 x 3 lbs. " " " "	1 x 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. " " Imported Ham.
4 x $\frac{3}{4}$ lb. " " " "	1 x 16 $\frac{1}{4}$ lb. " " " "
2 x 6 lbs. " " Jellied Veal.	

Again this year we have enjoyed the co-operation of food handlers in matters connected with hygienic handling &c. and complaints regarding food establishments have again been extremely rare.

Informal representation has resulted in the improvement of two such establishments.

#### MILK PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION.

As last year, close co-operation has been maintained with the Officers of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, especially in regard to drainage from Milk Production Premises, the only undesirable feature being the necessity for more than one Authority to deal with one matter.

There were four additions to the Register of Distributors of Milk and two withdrawals.

Advice as to drainage schemes has been given in respect of three new and four existing production premises.

#### ICE CREAM.

Nine new Retailers were registered during the year, all for the storage and sale of pre-wrapped Ice cream only.

#### SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933.

Forty-one persons are licensed to slaughter under the provisions of this Act.

No case of cruelty was found during the year.

#### RODENT CONTROL - PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.

During this, the first full year of operation, of the Council's scheme most of the district has been covered by inspection and treatment.

Two operators working together are employed for this purpose and deal with all properties other than agricultural land, which continues to be treated by the County Agricultural Committee's services.

Systematic progression from parish to parish is maintained and once again the co-operation of the Officers of the County Committee as well as the general public has been enjoyed and appreciated.

The service has done much to arouse public interest in the public health and economic aspects of the destruction of rodents and it has been very gratifying to receive numerous complimentary comments on the efficiency of the service throughout the year.

The Attleborough sewers were test-baited, with negative results.

The following report has been submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries in accordance with the provisions of the Act :-

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949.  
REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1952.

		<u>Type of Property.</u>				
		<u>Local</u> <u>Autho-</u> <u>rity.</u>	<u>Dwell-</u> <u>ing</u> <u>Houses.</u>	<u>Agri-</u> <u>cult-</u> <u>ural.</u>	<u>All other</u> <u>(including</u> <u>business and</u> <u>industrial).</u>	<u>Total.</u>
I	Total number of properties in Local Authority's District	16	4821	494	564	5895
II	Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1951 (a) 4 as a result (a) of notification or (b) otherwise.	(b) 27	4204	314	318	4863
III	Number of properties (Under Major II) found to be infested by rats	1 Minor 15	75 1411	17 145	19 146	112 1717
IV	Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice	Nil.	4	Nil.	4	8
V	Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority	17	1447	55	137	1656
VI	Number of notices served under Section 4 :-					
	(1) Treatment	-----		Nil	-----	
	(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	-----		Nil	-----	
	Total	-----		Nil	-----	
VII	Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of notice under Section 4	-----		Nil	-----	
VIII	Legal Proceedings	-----		Nil	-----	
IX	Number of "block" control schemes carried out	356.				



## PUBLIC CLEANSING.

(a) The collection and disposal of refuse and night soil has continued satisfactorily during the year.

It was found possible, by re-organisation, to reduce the night soil collection staff by one man without affecting the service adversely.

The conversion of Deopham Green Airfield Sewage Works was completed and came into use in May and has dealt successfully with all nightsoil and cesspool contents to date.

Frequent de-sludging and sludge bed clearance necessary in the treatment of nightsoil, has demanded additional labour at these works and was provided by transferring a second man from the night-soil collection staff in the re-organisation.

Complete coverage of the District by the refuse collection service has been maintained during the year.

Expenditure has been constantly under review and it is felt that maximum economies have been effected without impairing the efficiency of these services.

Complaints have again been very infrequent.

### (b) Cesspool Emptying.

Extensive use continues to be made of this service by private individuals and in connection with the Council's properties.

Details of the work carried out are as follows :-

	<u>Number of Emptyings.</u>	<u>Number of Loads.</u>
1. Privately owned cesspools	168	228
2. Council Housing Site Sewage Tank	51	71
3. Vaults	28	12
4. Tanks at Sewage Disposal Works, ) Highway Drainage &c. )	13	59
5. Miscellaneous Work	3 (days)	17
	<u>263</u>	<u>387</u>

Income from the 168 emptyings of Private Cesspools &c. was £318. 10s. -d, and the total value of all emptyings amounted to approximately £500.

## DRAINAGE OF PREMISES.

Advice has been given and the work supervised in connection with the provision of twenty five new drainage systems, fourteen to private dwellings, two at licensed premises, two at farm houses and one each at a School and a village Hall.

In addition, five private dwellings have been connected to the Council's sewers.

All these works were carried out by way of remedial measures to abate nuisance or to improve inadequate drainage systems.



## SEWERS AND SEWERAGE.

The installation of the new sewerage Scheme for Watton reported last year as having commenced, has progressed during the year satisfactorily towards completion and the Council engaged their former Surveyor to carry out a comprehensive survey of existing drainage preliminary to their consideration of the problem of connection of properties to the new system, a problem of some magnitude created by the need to ensure "separate" systems and the complicated layout of the drainage systems of many existing blocks of property.

Further consideration has been and is being given to the provision of a new sewerage system to serve the Parish of Attleborough.

The Old Buckenham Airfield Sewage Disposal Plant continues to deal satisfactorily with milk wastes from the United Dairies Creamery; the Analyst's reports on monthly samples from these works consistently show satisfactory results.

All sewer ditches in the District as well as the sewer cisterns in the Parish of New Buckenham have been cleaned out by the Council's Staff during the year.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

Particular attention has been paid during the year to the provision of a prompt and efficient service covering measures connected with the prevention of well-water cyanosis in bottle fed infants.

Sampling of wells is undertaken immediately notification of bottle feeding is received from the County Council and the user is provided with one gallon of water (from a supply known to be "safe" from the point of view of nitrate content) for use until analysis results are obtained (usually within twenty four hours).

In addition, certain supplies have been sampled in each Parish and arrangements are made for use of these by persons whose supply is unsafe for infant feeding.

The importance of vigilant attention to this aspect of water supplies was unhappily emphasised early in the year by the death of one infant (from well-water cyanosis) which was bottle fed from a dangerous well on its return from Hospital. In this case information that the child was to be discharged from Hospital was not available.

At the end of the year, efforts were being made to improve the procedure for notifying cases of bottle feeding, so as to exclude the possibility of it commencing before a sample could be taken, and it was felt that the only safe method would be to sample all well supplies to houses where births were anticipated.

Unfortunately, however, the County Council have not found it possible to make available the necessary information and providentially, such delays as have occurred have not had serious results.

Close co-operation between the staffs of the two authorities has resulted in minimisation of delays and in the establishment of an efficient service from the point where notification is received, and it is hoped that before long the one serious defect in the system may be remedied particularly as it occurs at the most vital time, the commencement of bottle feeding where it is found necessary.

During the year, 46 supplies were sampled and 53 samples (and repeat samples) were taken. Of these 24 were sampled for bacteriological examination and estimation of nitrate content, the remainder for bacteriological examination only.

Results obtained showed that of these 24 supplies were unsatisfactory from the bacteriological standpoint, and 11 unsatisfactory owing to a high nitrate content (eight of them are included in the 24 unsatisfactory bacteriological results).

Nine of the unsatisfactory supplies have been replaced by connections to the Council's mains and a further five were awaiting connection.

In all other cases alternative supplies have been made available and/or remedial works have been put in hand by the Owners.

#### VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Disinfestation of premises has been carried out by Gammexane treatment of six dwellings; two against fleas (at Besthorpe and Old Buckenham) two against bed-bugs (at Watton and Eccles) one against centipedes (at Garboldisham) and one at Carbrooke in connection with the treatment of scabies.

#### PUBLIC SWIMMING POOLS.

The Management Committee of the Swimming Pool at Loch Neaton, Watton, continued to improve conditions during the year, but it has not been possible to provide a chlorination plant.

Two samples taken showed "Highly Satisfactory" results.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Twenty four fumigations of premises have been carried out in the year; six following the death or removal of cases of Tuberculosis, ten in connection with cases of Scarlet Fever, one, a private school, following cases of chicken pox and seven in connection with notified cases of Poliomyelitis.

#### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Again this year little time has been available for the routine inspection of factory premises in general, but attention is given to all matters coming within our purview and notified by the Factory Inspector.

At one existing Factory, the sanitary accommodation has been improved, and a "Means of Escape from Fire" Certificate has been issued in respect of a new factory.

#### MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

There are no Commercial Camping Sites in the district.

Three new licences were issued authorising the erection of stationing of single dwellings.



## HOUSING.

During the year twenty four dwellings have been brought up to standard as a result of informal representation to the Owners and in addition six improvement schemes under the Housing Act, 1949, have been dealt with.

The Housing (Rural Survey) was completed during the year and a separate report on this matter submitted to the Council.

## GENERAL.

The number of inspection visits made for all purposes totalled 1917 which figure seems satisfactory in view of the fact that meat inspection alone has demanded attendance at the Slaughterhouse by one Inspector on over two hundred afternoons.

One gratifying aspect of the years work is that there has not been any necessity to institute legal proceedings on any matters coming within the control of the Public Health Department.

I am grateful for the consideration shown by the Public Health Committee and the Council as a whole, and for the help and co-operation of other members of the staff, particularly that of the Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Sheldrake.

A.T. BOORE.

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR.



REPORT OF THE WATERWORKS ENGINEER FOR THE YEAR 1952.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report for the year 1952.

The quality and quantity of the mains water supply has been satisfactory throughout the year. Samples were taken and the water was treated as in previous years.

Main laying in Stage II of the Regional Water Scheme was commenced on 18th August, 1952, and 11,040 yards had been laid at 31st December, 1952.

<u>Premises and Farms connected.</u>	<u>Domestic.</u>	<u>Meter.</u>
Attleborough	729	100
Besthorpe	70	16
Banham	206	56
Blo'Norton	59	24
Brettenham	1	-
Bridgham	51	5
Buckenham, New	102	11
Buckenham, Old	228	53
Carbrooke	24	4
Croxton	58	8
Caston	8	-
Eccles/Hargham/Quidenham/Wilby	100	18
Ellingham, Little	14	3
Ellingham, Great	47	7
Garboldisham	128	34
Griston	10	2
Harling	235	29
Hockham	12	-
Kenninghall/Fersfield	180	45
Larling/Roudham	29	6
Lopham, North	91	27
Lopham, South	82	38
Merton	11	-
Morley	6	1
Ovington	4	-
Riddlesworth/Gasthorpe	22	4
Rocklands	22	-
Snetterton	4	1
Scoulton	24	5
Shropham	5	1
Stow Bedon	6	1
Thompson	12	-
Wretham	19	8
Watton	461	45
	<u>3060</u>	<u>552</u>

Lincolne Sutton & Wood.

The County Laboratories,  
Norwich.

Cert. No. 207 D.

4th June, 1952.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

2 samples submitted by Wayland R.D.C. per Mr. M.G.M. Short, collected from as under on 27th May, 1952.

<u>Mark.</u>	<u>Colonies per ml on agar at 37°C (2 days).</u>	<u>Coliform Organisms (gas in McConkey at 37°C).</u>	
		<u>Present in (ml).</u>	<u>Absent in (ml).</u>
No. 1 Pumping Station, East Wretham	4		100
No. 2 Pumping Station, East Wretham	Nil.		100

Remarks :- These results are quite satisfactory.

(Signed) Eric C. Wood.  
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Lincolne Sutton & Wood.

The County Laboratories,  
Norwich.

Cert. No. 208 D.

4th June, 1952.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

Sample submitted by Wayland R.D.C. per Mr. M.G.M. Short, collected from Standpipe, Croxton, on 27th May, 1952.

<u>Mark.</u>	<u>Colonies per ml on agar at 37°C (2 days).</u>	<u>Coliform Organisms (gas in McConkey at 37°C).</u>	
		<u>Present in (ml)</u>	<u>Absent in (ml)</u>
Standpipe, Croxton	140		100

Remarks :- This result is satisfactory. The rather high count is probably due to contamination of the standpipe itself, but coliform organisms are absent.

(Signed) Eric C. Wood.  
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Lincolne Sutton & Wood.

The County Laboratories,  
Norwich.

Cert. No. 211 D.

4th June, 1952.

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER.

2 samples submitted by Wayland R.D.C. per Mr. M.G.M. Short, collected from as under on 1st June, 1952.

<u>Mark.</u>	<u>Colonies per ml on agar at 37°C (2 days).</u>	<u>Coliform Organisms (gas in McConkey at 37°C).</u>	
		<u>Present in (ml)</u>	<u>Absent in (ml)</u>
Kemps Cottage, Gasthorpe	2		100
Standpipe, Hall Gardens, Riddlesworth	Nil.		100

Remarks :- These results are very satisfactory.

(Signed). Eric C. Wood.

Lincolne Sutton and Wood.

The County Laboratories,  
Norwich.

Cert No. 421 D.

1st August, 1953.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER.

Sample received from Wayland R.D.C., marked tap in Pumping Station, Watton, 17.7.52.

Appearance when received: Clear.  
Colour: Nil.  
Reaction: Slt. alkaline. pH 7.4.

Odour: Satisfactory.  
Taste: "

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.02	Chlorine as chlorides: 21
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.01	Oxygen absorbed (4 hr. 27°C): 0.10
Nitrate nitrogen: 2.0	Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>
Nitrite nitrogen: nil.	Total: 232 = 23° Clark.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37°C: Nil.  
Presumptive coliform organisms - probable number per 100 ml: Nil.  
B. Coli.: Absent from 100 ml.

OPINION.

This water maintains its usual excellent quality whether it be judged chemically or bacteriologically. There is no sign whatever of pollution and it is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

(Signed) Eric C. Wood.

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Lincoln Sutton & Wood.

The County Laboratories,  
Norwich.

Cert. No. 422 D.

1st August, 1953.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER.

Sample received from Wayland R.D.C., marked tap in Softener House, Old Buckenham Waterworks, 16.7.52.

Appearance when received: Slight chalky deposit, otherwise clear.  
Colour: Nil.  
Reaction: Alkaline pH 9.75

Odour: Satisfactory.  
Taste: "

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION.

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.08	Chlorine as chlorides: 38
Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.01	Oxygen absorbed (4 hour. 27°C): 0.21
Nitrate nitrogen: Nil.	Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>
Nitrite nitrogen: faint trace.	Total: 84 = approx. 6° Clark.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS.

Number of colonies developing per ml in 48 hours at 37°C: Nil.  
Presumptive coliform organisms - probable number per 100 ml: Nil.  
B. Coli.: Absent from 100 ml.

OPINION.

This water has been softened to a residual hardness of about 6° Clark, and is alkaline in reaction. In its freedom from chemical signs of pollution and its highly satisfactory bacteriological quality, this water maintains its usual standards. It is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

(Signed). Eric C. Wood.

M.G.M. SHORT.